

MINUTES

January 25, 2006

The Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women

Rescheduled Quarterly Commission Meeting

The Ferguson Center, 700 South 16th, Lincoln, NE

Meeting called to Order at 11:43 by Chair Irene Duncan. Those present: John Nejad, Omaha; Vicki Wright, Omaha; Kathy McKillip; Lincoln; Susan Kloepping, Cozad. Dorothy Anderson; Lincoln attended for the Nebraska Women's Foundation.

Bonnie Coffee, National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) President announced the Making it REAL 2006 National Convention will be held July 19-22 in Lincoln Nebraska. The Holiday Inn at the HayMarket has agreed to charge only \$60 for room rentals. Cost for attending the convention itself is \$300.00. The Nebraska Women's Commission, as well as the Iowa Women's Commission are co-sponsors. Bonnie is seeking proctors, volunteers, greeters and registration table staffers, and there are three levels of underwriting sponsorships available. Bonnie is also collaborating the conference with the travel and tourism office.

The status of the commissioner appointment report presented by Lisa Good indicated that of the thirty possible commission slots, there are currently nine active commissioners. Whitney Bumgarner of the Governor's office had recently e-mailed asking for two democratic nominees from District 6 and one democratic nominee from District 5. Dorothy Anderson volunteered to inquire further at the governor's office as to the number of appointees possible. Statutes say there can be no fewer than 18, and up to 30 commissioners.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2005 commission meeting with the removal of Jolanda Junge-Kuzma from present, to absent and excused was made by Jolanda, Susan Kloepping seconded. Minutes approved as amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2005 Teleconference were approved with clarification sought for the Election of Officers 2006. Susan Kloepping moved to resubmit the officer slate for 2006 for approval. Kathy seconded. Officers are approved.

Budget Review

- Constraints: there are approximately \$100,00.00 in personnel costs (PSL) and \$100,00.00 for general expenses
- Strategic staffing decisions
 - Utilize volunteer services, contract services
- Not included in the budget report
 - At least 4 re-imbursements are outstanding
- Personnel
 - Accounting person
 - Approximately 5-10 hours per week

- A state employee working overtime is cheaper than hiring a permanent full time accountant
- A query was put forth on how we should cull applicants

Raise for the Executive Director

- Compared to other commissions the NE Commission on the Status of Women Executive Director's pay ranks 2nd from the bottom.
 - This came from the State of Nebraska Classification and Pay Plan.
 - Lisa Good asked for a pay increase, totaling 8% , to mirror state employee pay raises for the last three years 2004 (1.5%) 2005 (3.0%) and 2006 (3.5%)
 - It was also pointed out that Executive Directors receive no unemployment benefits
- Motion to give Lisa Good a living wage increase of 8%
 - Motion seconded
 - The above motion was amended to state that the living wage increase of Lisa Good is to be effective February 1st

Administrative Assistant

- A motion was made to offer Rebecca Nelms the full time position as administrative assistant
 - Motion seconded

Approval of Financial Report

- The Women Work! meeting is this Friday (1/27/06)
 - Discussion of how we should affiliate
 - Women Work recommends the commissioners join as individuals
 - Discussion of individual membership allows materials sent to individual commissioners
 - Motion made and seconded that the commission funds will pay for commissioners to join, either through direct payment or reimbursement.
 - Motion made to allow as many commissioner's to attend Women Work! conference as possible
 - Motion seconded
- Motion to approve revised budget
 - Motioned and seconded

Becky Ferguson / Kelli Ramirez: Guests

- Merchandise concern from Kohl's
 - Hat at Kohl's "just remember if at first you don't succeed buy her another beer"
- Discussion of marketing approach to all genders
 - This is a human issue
 - Letter to the editor
 - Told Kelli she should contact Cindy Lange Kubik
 - Contact store management

- Awareness tools
 - Something like a “cheers & jeers” section on the website

Future Quarterly Meetings

- Discussion re: April 7, 16, or 21st
- Decided to try Wednesday April 19th from 9am to 1:30pm
- Decided on July 12th in Omaha from 9am to 1:30pm
- Decided on October 18th location TBA somewhere in western NE from 9am to 1:30pm

DeVoted

- There are 13 cities booked
- There should be a link on our website for the touring company
 - www.angelscompany.org